

## South Carolina Department of Insurance

NIKKI R. HALEY
Governor

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## Media Release

May 28, 2014 For Immediate Release Contact: Ann Roberson Phone: 803-737-6207

## 2014 Storm Ready Preparedness Expo Charleston, South Carolina

**Columbia, SC**-The South Carolina Department of Insurance in partnership with The Home Depot, Channel 2, WCBD-TV of Charleston, state and local agencies and businesses is hosting a one-day event for homeowners in the greater Charleston area. This outdoor fair will provide homeowners the information and tools that they need to prepare for the upcoming hurricane season which begins June 1, 2014 and runs until November 30, 2014.

"This is a terrific opportunity for the community to come out and learn valuable cost saving and life safety information that will help them not only prepare for this year's storm season but will arm them with the knowledge that will help them prepare their homes and property for years to come," said Ray Farmer, Director of the South Carolina Department of Insurance. "Everyone should come out and talk with the representatives from the various organizations."

WHAT: Storm Ready Preparedness Expo

WHEN: Saturday, May 31, 2014

10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** West Ashley Home Depot

2008 Magwood Road Charleston, SC 29414

Representatives will be on hand to provide free demonstrations regarding mitigation and retrofit measures to include the installation of storm shutters, gable-end bracing and code plus roof retrofit techniques. Insurance companies and agencies will be available to talk about insurance coverage and the ways that homeowners can prepare to reduce future losses as well as ways to expedite the claims process after a disaster.

Local, state and national organizations to include The Red Cross, The United States Coast Guard, Charleston County Project Impact, Charleston County Fire and Police and others will be on hand to provide safety and preparedness information. There will activities for the children to include a Home Depot Build It session along with a bounce house and other fun activities.

Channel 2 Chief Meteorologist, Rob Fowler and his team will be on hand to answer questions about the upcoming hurricane season and to help homeowners program their weather radios. Door prizes will be given away and food and drinks will be available.

## **Exhibitors include:**

**Andersen Windows** 

**Roofing/Siding/Windows Consultants- Home Depot** 

Rigid/Rvobi

**Charleston County Emergency Management Services** 

**United States Coast Guard** 

**Charleston County Building Services/ Flood Mitigation Program** 

**Charleston County Project Impact** 

The Red Cross

**Charleston Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** 

**State Farm Insurance Companies** 

**South Carolina Insurance News Service** 

SC Department of Insurance, Division of Consumer Services

**SC Safe Home** 

**Allstate** 

**South Carolina Wind and Hail Underwriting Association** 

**Federal Alliance for Safe Homes** 

Middle Branch Construction, LLC

**Charleston County Humane Society/ Pet Helpers** 

**Nationwide** 

**Georgetown County Emergency Management** 

**Cat 5 Houses** 

**Charleston County Police, Fire and EMS** 

**Lowcountry Hurricane Protection and Shutters** 

**CT Lowndes Agency** 

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